

ACCORDING TO THE OREGON GRAPEVINE

Hildred Rice

In many places folk dancing went on as usual. The Portland Park Bureau and the International Folk Dancers of Portland sponsored a folk dance festival in Washington Park, Portland, Oregon, Sunday, August 21. This event is always attended by thousands of people. Unfortunately it conflicted with the annual festival sponsored by Glacier Gliders in Enumclaw, Washington. This always attracts a number of Oregon dancers and this year was no exception. The street dance on Saturday afternoon, the kolo hour and the big festival Saturday night were all well attended. The exhibitions were beautiful and interesting. Sunday afternoon's dance was also well attended and the sun shined all day. The dancers were ready for the watermelon feed which climaxes this festival. The teaching institute offering 1955 Stockton dances was one of the best yet.

International Folk Dancers of Richland, Washington held their first festival on Saturday and Sunday September 24 and 25 and it was a big success. Another good teaching institute by Washington teachers, a kolo hour, a big Saturday festival and some afterhours kolo dancing all contributed to the success. One of the unusual exhibitions was tribal dances by Yakima Indians. Several Oregon folk dancers took part in the festival and the exhibitions.

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SOUTH-NORTH OF THE BORDER

DAPHNE & LINDY

At the Annual Pasadena Art Fair, last week-end in September, the Pasadena Co-Op Dancers had a display booth filled with home made costumes, dolls, paintings, etc. The group was also featured in half hour program of dances that drew a large audience to the City Hall Plaza. Marvin Chester, prexy and many others did grand job of showing folk dancing in its simplest, best and most enjoyable form. There was impromptu dancing on the sidewalk, in front of the booth and it drew large crowds.

The Kolo group from St. Anthony's church gave their final "picnic" performance at the Croatian Recreation Center in L. A. with a great number of dancers in Yugoslav costumes from various regions. This group is being taught by Zdenka Politeo but the weekly hard work of rehearsing the group is done by Lani Papadol. The music was by the Hajduk Tamburitza group who get better every time we hear them. Most of the dances were also sung by three girls from the Slavuli Chorus.

Speaking of kolo singing, the kolo enthusiasts have been getting together to learn and to sing in Serb-Croatian. Being able to sing kolos means one may dance them anywhere which was just what was done at a picnic in Griffith Park on Labor Day. Despite the 100 weather, all hands danced on the grass under pine trees, and ate hamburgers and hot dogs prepared by Will Kinsey.

In Santa Monica, each Friday evening, the Gandy girls become Ukrainian practicing "Hoyni Veter", directed by Vince Ivanchuk, for the opening of the new Ukrainian Museum during mid-October. The men are learning "Kazaki" from Don Landauer. This humorous and vigorous dance, from the film "A Nation Dances", will be performed this winter.

The "Daughters Of Penelope", directed by Chris Taulis, presented charming dances at the International Institute on Oct. 9th. ... Dave Slater was in a car smash-up accident; thou the car was completely demolished Dave suffered only a broken hand... Daphne Upton thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality extended to her by the Bakersfield dancers... Bud and Jan Grotzinger and about 30 other Bakersfield dancers, decended upon Jan's lovely mother for a happy evening of swimming in their new pool and feasting in the patio.

In the planning stage is a program by YWD to get folk dancing started in the Covina Area. The Jr Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring this program and expects enthusiastic backing from the 20,000 families in Covina.

The IDC (International Dancers Club) is sponsoring a beginners group each Monday at the Audubon Jr. High School, 10th Ave. & Santa Barbara, in L. A. All are welcome. Carolyn Mitchel is the instructor.

The Yosemite Workshop Dancers presented the "Kedves Csardas" at the Hungarian Day celebration in Long Beach on Oct. 2. On Oct. 8, at the Long Beach festival, YWD performed their new Russian "Plasovye Naigreshi". The biggest plans and efforts are being directed toward a trio of Macedonian dances YWD is planning to do at the Kolo Festival. All members, including the men, are busy sewing the costumes from the South Serbian area of Macedonia. One man's dance and a couple dance will be taught by Dick Slater; the woman's dance by Lani Papadol. All three were obtained from a color film.

The L. A. area had two successful festivals during the October 8-9 week-end. The "Festival Fantasy" in Long Beach was attended by hundreds, and the spacious floor of the beautiful Auditorium which jets into the ocean, was jammed with participants. At the International Institute, hundreds, if not thousands, passed through its doors and patios to see the various ethnic groups present their programs. The Annual festival lasted the entire week-end. Various rooms were set aside for handicraft displays by nationality groups. A foreign kitchen served delicacies and foods of many nations. Songs and dances were presented noon and evening by the greatest number ever of various ethnic groups in the Los Angeles area. It was a thrilling event.

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ATEITIS DOINGS

On July 23rd we danced at the Friendship Gardens, Near Michigan City, Ind. Unfortunately the Elgin Indian group danced early in the evening and they must have performed the Rain Dance, because it did just that—RAIN. The show went on, the audience stayed and a wet time was had by all. We performed on a small grass island, with the audience on the other side of the water. The Milwaukee Polish MAZUR DANCERS (Al Sokolnicki) were to initiate their new Goral costumes but the rain kept them in their old ones. The cold rain also popped some of the flood lights, adding a little excitement to the show. The grass was wet and slippery, giving all a hard time.

"Club Internationale" had a carnival during August and many folk dance groups were featured (on the average of one a night). On Sundays they had time on WGN-TV. ATEITIS appeared on their last night with the POLISH FESTIVAL DANCERS, McDonald's SCOTT'S, and the Norwegian LEIKARINGEN.

ATEITIS and the LEIKARINGEN had a get-together during August at the summer home of the Sons Of Norway in Cedar Lake, Ill. We all had a wonderful time swimming and trying to water-ski. (The friendship between the Lithuanian Folk Dancers and the Norwegians, is one of long duration.

It started in 1933 during the Chicago World's Fair and has continued through the years even tho hardly any of the originals are now present VFB).

New "Ateitis" Officers: President — Bruno Shotas, Treasurer — Juozas Tamesevičius, Secretary — Sally Adint, Publicity — Hellen Pius.

LENNY MICKAS

FOLK DANCE SYBALLUS

VOLUME ONE

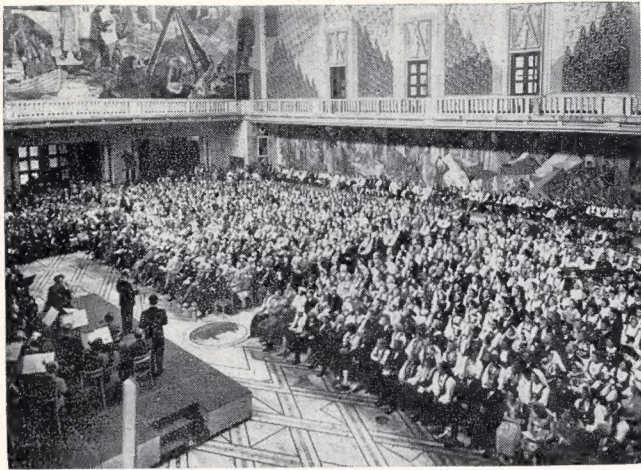
Edited by Michael Herman

83 pages, 8½x11, spiral binding. Illustrated. 70 folk dances, 15 contras, 7 squares plus menus and recipes for nationality meals, and folk dance party decorations and programs.

\$2.08 from FOLK DANCE HOUSE

108 West 16 St.

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The visiting folk dance groups are being officially welcomed to the city of Oslo, Norway, in the city hall, by the Burgomeister. All Oslo festival pictures were brought here by Hildred Rice and developed by Francis Kies of Portland, Ore.

OSLO

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF FOLK DANCE & SONG

Oslo, Norway, June 29 to July 5, 1955

Hildred Rice

From the opening meeting Wednesday afternoon in Oslo Town Hall to the closing ceremonies the following Monday evening, the Third International Folk Dance Festival and Eighth Folk Music Congress was a thrilling and interesting experience. This festival was sponsored by UNESCO and the International Folk Music Council which has more than 500 members and correspondents in five continents, and whose purpose is to study and disseminate true folk music and dances of various countries. Dance teams from fourteen countries took part in the performances and the parade of nations. Many other countries were represented among spectators and those who attended the meetings of the Music Congress.

It was evident from the welcoming speeches that the leaders felt that through sharing of folk dances and songs better understanding among nations could result. To quote from one of the speeches: "Behind all the international differences is the folk arts of the people. By studying them we can create better understanding among countries. This festival is more important than many other international arrangements. I hope this festival will shorten the distances between the various nations."

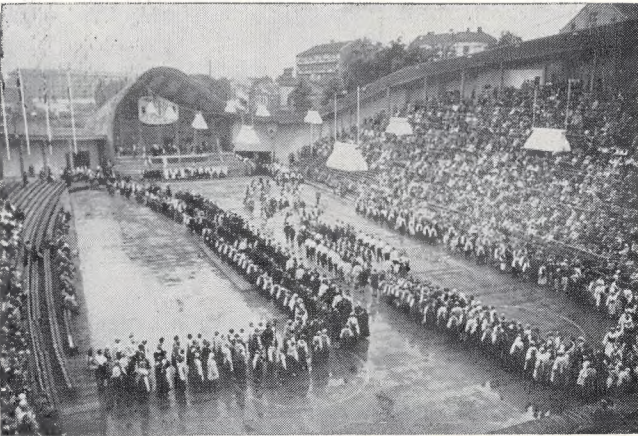
Another speaker told of the Norwegian weddings which last for three days and asked us to look upon our stay in Oslo as a slightly lenthened Norwegian wedding. It was also hoped that the warm feelings of friendship at the festival would help us forget the cool summer weather. The friendship was really there. The interest in all events was so great nobody minded the weather no matter how much it rained. Besides the Morris dancers from England were usually there to keep people entertained with their colorful lively sword dances and others equally spirited. These dances are usually performed by six-men teams.

The grand ball on Wednesday evening was also held in Oslo City Hall. This was truly an international mixer for all interested folk dancers. We joined hands with dancers from many countries and enjoyed the singing and dancing even though we could not always speak the lan-



The opening ball with folk dancing by all and for all, on June 29.

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The opening March preceding the performances in Oslo's Jarda Amphitheatre.

guage. The program opened with a very colorful grand march. Some of the demonstrations that evening were Annenpolka and Geestlander Quadrille by German team, Der Schleuniger by Austrians, and some very lively Horos by the Macedonian team from Yugoslavia. Other teams demonstrated simpler dances which then were done by all the dancers. Reinlander, hambo, Ruggen, and waltzes were popular dances. The people were friendly and encouraged us to try the dances even if we were not sure of them.

The Music Congress met for interesting discussions and demonstrations of folk music instruments each morning and also in the afternoons when other events were not scheduled. On Thursday evening different teams performed in several places in Oslo. We attended the performances by Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Isle of Man, Sweden and Soviet-Union in the Vigeland Museum, and then went to the Norwegian evening in University Aula which was equally interesting. The lur, buck's horn, willow pipe, Jew's larp, langleik (long instrument) which has survived only in the Norwegian valley of Valdres, and Hargandar fiddle which is tuned a minor third higher than the usual European violin, were all demonstrated. In Eastern Norway the European violin is used for dancing. The dances demonstrated were Setesdalsganger, Vossarull, Valdrespringer, Vestlandspringer, Numedalspringer, Springleik from Gudbrandsdal, Pols from Trondelag, Pols from Tolga, Telespringer with two women which somewhat resembled the Austrian Dreisteयर, and the spectacular Halling dance in which the man leaps into the air to kick the hat off the stick being held by his partner who stands on a chair. This dance really requires some acrobatic skill.